

BOOK REVIEW

BRIAN LOFLIN AND SHIRLEY LOFLIN. 2009. **Texas Cacti: A Field Guide**. (ISBN 978-1-60344-108-7, flexbound with flaps). Texas A&M University Press, John H. Lindsey Building, 4354 TAMU, College Station, Texas 77843-4354, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.tamupress.com, 1-800-826-8911). \$24.00, 312 pp., 483 color photos, 103 maps, 5 3/4" × 9".

Though it seems that cacti are sometimes overlooked in the world of plants, this book does an excellent job of sparking interest through high-quality images on nearly every page. Breaking down the broad spectrum of cacti by region, each specimen is awarded its own full page loaded with information. With detailed specimen notes on location, spine characteristics, individual features, habitat, and flowering season, *Texas Cacti* is a must-have guide for anyone in need of a comprehensive handbook on the subject.—Haden Shibley, Volunteer, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 500 E 4th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.

From the publisher: "In *Texas Cacti*, authors Brian and Shirley Loflin present a concise, fully illustrated field guide to more than one hundred of the cacti most often found in Texas and the surrounding region. The book opens with an illustrated introduction to cactus habitat and anatomy. The species are then organized by stem shape, with each account featuring detailed color photographs, specific identifying features (including spines, flowers, fruits, and seeds) and information about common and scientific names, habitat, flowering season, and more. The photographs, range maps, and icons designating shape, conservation status, and blooming period, along with easy-to-understand descriptions, make this book a quick and friendly guide to cactus identification for botanists, amateur naturalists, and cactus enthusiasts alike."

"**Brian and Shirley Loflin** are independent writers and photographers living in Austin. Authors of *Grasses of the Texas Hill Country*, the Loflins also teach nature photography workshops in a variety of venues. Their photographs have appeared in many books and periodicals, including *Texas Parks and Wildlife*, *Outdoor Photographer*, and *Texas Highways*."